Confidential

2/9/70

Dear Moo,

Amplifying our brief conversation this morning, here is what I recall from my conversation with Herman Kohlman this morning.

The feds showed little interest in the arrest of Ferrie until after Kohlman personally phoned Will Fritz and told Jim of it. They they got real interested. He recalls only Regis Kennedy and Rice interviewing him. He had written several stories about Ferrie, and all Martin did was two things: recall his having written of Ferrie to him and tell him that according to what he knew, Ferrie had gone to Texas. He says that, cntrary to the official reporting, what Martin told him was substantially right. He is uncertain of the dates of his stories, placing them from 1959 to 1961. He apparently had trouble getting them from the paper and dug them up (or had them located) at the library, so you should have file copies of these.

While he has no independent recollection of any one, he is certain that he wrote memos and is positive that the investigators files reports. He is clear on his recollection of having turn copies over to the FBI, together with a verbal account of the results of the investigation. Of neither have I found any indication in any official files.

They called in every kid they knew of suspected had been connected with Ferrie, and all were cooperative. In most cases, parents accompanied the kids. They took statements, and these also were given the FBI (copies, I presume). His contact with O'Sullivan was slight, but he recalls that others interviewed him in depth, so there should be some record of this, too. He seems to think they also had the names of those with whom Ferrie maintained some kind of organization after he was out of the CAP, of which I have seen no record in your files.

While he does not have the independent recollection of the NOPD Int. Unit files reflected in one of the suppressed documents, he assumes they would have existed with respect to both Ferrie and Oswald, his own stories on Ferrie having been enough to trigger that interest (Kennedy describes this file as of Ferrie's Cuban activities). He seems to think the police photographed Oswald after the arrest. (Bearing on this I now have more on the Ampolsk part that I'll give you when you are here.)

He says that in addition to the known Jeff. Parish record, Ferrie had several arrests in Orleans Parish, and the file on these arrests apparently was pretty thick. He says a Lt. Fornier had all that, perhaps handled it. He is clear and specific that the N.O. arrests are separate from Jeff.

Part of the investigation was handled by Raymond Comstock. All the files were gathered together for Jim by Frank Klein, and there may have been a duplicate for Klein, who was handling this matter.

He is certain your files should have memos on all this.

Ferrie rented from Sapir. He also, apparently, was on at least one occasion prior to the assassination interviewed in his par La. Ave. P'way home by your office.

So, there should exist in N.O., large Ferrie files, inc. Int. Unit (and on Oswald also, possibly with pictures), with statements from many witneses, police and office investigator reports, clippings, memos of what people said, or FBI interviews, and I think someone is not levelling with Louis. Hurriedly,